

REMARKS

Claims 21-22, 25-28 and 34-46 are amended. Claim 31 is canceled. Claims 19-29 and 34-36 are pending in the application.

Claims 21-22, 25-28 and 34-36 stand objected to due to informalities. Without admission as to the propriety of the examiner's objections, each of claims 21-22, 25-28, and 34-36 is amended to incorporate the changes suggested by the examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claims 21-22, 25-28 and 34-36 is respectfully requested.

Claims 25 through 27, 31 and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. With respect to claim 25, and claims 26-27 which depend therefrom, the examiner indicates lack of proper antecedent basis for the claim 25 recited "the dried catalyst". Claim 25 has been amended to recite the catalyst in a dried state. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the § 112 rejection of claim 25, and its dependent claims 26 and 27.

With respect to claim 31, the examiner indicates a lack of antecedent basis for the recited claim limitation. Without admission as to the propriety of the rejection, claim 31 is cancelled.

With respect to claim 36, the examiner indicates the recited "at least one dimension of at least 5 μm " renders the claim unclear. As amended, claim 36 recites pores having at least one cross-sectional dimension of at least about 5 μm . Such amendment is supported by the specification at, for example, page 11, lines 1-9. Accordingly, applicant requests withdrawal of the § 112 rejection of claim 36.

The amendments discussed above are believed to overcome the objections and rejections set forth in the present Action. Since there were no art based rejections and the amendments did not alter the subject matter of any claim, no additional search is believed to be warranted. Accordingly, the application is in condition for immediate allowance and action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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